

the Congress Hotel, across the street from the college. There, she realized she could connect the unfamiliar scientific world to a world the students knew well. The alcohol in the drinks and the acid in the salad dressing became links between science and experience that brought meaning to molecules and bonds and chemical reactions.

And so began an innovative curriculum that has been as successful as it is unconventional. What began as a new way to look at science has grown into a new way of bringing the power and wonder of the subject to those who for whom learning has all too often been an unrealized privilege rather than the right Zafra Lerman believes it to be. Over the past two decades, Zafra has made it her mission to ensure that all students, regardless of their background, can experience science in a meaningful way. She has encouraged her students to explore chemistry through music and dance rather than forcing them to work behind a lab bench and has helped them learn the abstract material on their own terms.

Each week, students from the Chicago Public Schools board busses and travel to Columbia College to experience science the Lerman way. During the summer, Zafra leads a month-long "science boot camp" where teachers learn for themselves how to unite the realm of science with the universe of a teenager in Chicago. Over the years, more than 16,000 youths on the southwest side of Chicago have found the potential in science education and—thanks to Mother Zafra, as they call her—have for the first time seen high school as a beginning to their education rather than an end.

Zafra Lerman's work doesn't end at the shore of Lake Michigan. In addition to her devotion to the students of Chicago, she has long been a champion of international human rights. She has traveled extensively overseas—often to the most dangerous corners of the world—to help address the plight of dissident scientists in China, Russia and Belarus. She even learned the Russian language so she could converse directly with Andrei Sakharov instead of relying on the translator provided by the KGB.

I would like today to congratulate Zafra Lerman on being awarded the Charles Lathrop Parsons Award for Outstanding Public Service to Chemistry from the American Chemical Society. I assure you this is not her first honor—indeed, she is the recipient of more than three dozen well-deserved awards and grants over the past 15 years, including the prestigious Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring. But I know this one means a great deal to her, for the late Franklin A. Long, her mentor at Cornell University, received the same honor in 1985 and had dreamed that she would one day follow in his footsteps.

"If I am able to see that I made a change for the better in someone's

life," Zafra has said, "then I know that it was a good day." Madam President, Zafra Lerman's life has been a collection of good days from which so many have benefitted. All of us whose lives she has touched owe her a debt of gratitude. ●

NATIONAL TEACHER DAY

● Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, I come to the floor today to recognize National Teacher Day and all the hard-working, dedicated teachers that spend every day preparing our Nation's children for tomorrow.

National Teacher Day is an opportunity to let millions of teachers across the Nation know how much we value and appreciate their work. It is a chance to salute the dedicated individuals who touch the future by teaching our children.

We recognize teachers like Jennifer Erbe, the 2002 Iowa Teacher of the Year. I had the opportunity to meet Jennifer last month and was impressed with her passion for children and her ingenuity in the classroom. She is one of Iowa's youngest teachers and we not only need to find ways to keep her in the classroom but to encourage more of our best and brightest young people to enter the profession as well.

As we celebrate National Teachers Day, we must not forget that teachers need more than just a few kinds words about the work they do or a pat on the back. They don't need empty rhetoric about the importance of education but need us to provide the resources necessary to do the job right.

Last year, we passed the Elementary and Secondary Education reauthorization and talked a lot about the need for education reform and quality teachers. We are demanding greater accountability, but also promised increased federal investments. Last year we provided education with a 16 percent increase. That was a good start. However, President Bush's first budget since the passage of his education reform bill provides only 2.8 percent increase in funding, the smallest increase since 1996.

In my home State of Iowa, State budget cuts are forcing school districts to cut back on the number of teachers for the next school year. Some are laying off teachers. Others are not replacing teachers that will retire. The reality for Iowa children next fall will be larger classes and fewer opportunities.

In the next 10 years, 40 percent of Iowa teachers will retire and we need to address that problem now. That is why these lay offs are so troubling, because they are hitting the very teachers that we were counting on to offset the impending retirements.

We face many serious challenges in our nation's schools and no one worries more about the child that is getting left behind than the classroom teacher. We make sure all children succeed by providing high quality preschool programs, small class sizes, modern buildings and up-to-date teachers.

Someone once wrote, "If you can read this, thank a teacher." Our words are important and take the time to thank a teacher today. But let's not just offer kind words to our teachers, let's dedicate ourselves to make sure teachers have the tools they need in the classroom to get the job done. ●

PERIODIC REPORT ON THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO SUDAN—PM 82

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report, which was referred to the Committee on Banking, and Urban Affairs.

To The Congress of the United States:

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I am providing herewith a 6-month periodic report prepared by my Administration on the national emergency with respect to Sudan that was declared in Executive Order 13067 of November 3, 1997.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, May 7, 2002.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 2:58 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify that the parsonage allowance exclusion is limited to the fair rental value of the property.

The enrolled bill was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-6736. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a Certification to Congress Regarding the Incidental Capture of Sea Turtles in Commercial Shipping Operations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6737. A communication from the Administrator, Office of Workforce Security, Employment and Training Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Disaster Unemployment Assistance Program; Request for Comments; Interim Final Rule" (RIN1205-AB31) received on May 2, 2002; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6738. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Subsistence Management Regulations for Public